

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Debby Barrett, on March 29, 2011 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Debby Barrett, Chairman (R)
Sen. Greg Hinkle, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. Edward Walker (R)
Sen. David E. Wanzonried (D)

Members Excused: Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Kevin McCue, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 533, 3/25/2011; SJ 21, 3/25/2011; SJ 22, 3/25/2011

Executive Action: SJ 21 - Do pass

HEARING ON HB 533

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:06 Rep. Tom Berry (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HB 533, Revise state coal leasing laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:02:11 Leo Berry, lobbyist, Great Northern Properties, L.P. (GNP)
EXHIBIT(nas70a01)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:15:52 Clayton Elliott, lobbyist, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)
00:22:01 Kate French, Chair, Sleeping Giant Citizens Council (SGCC)

Informational Testimony:

00:24:36 Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC)
00:27:32 Ed Coleman, Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau Chief, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:27:59 Sen. Walker
00:28:30 Mr. Elliott, NPRC
00:30:15 Sen. Walker
00:30:42 Ms. French, SGCC
00:30:58 Sen. Keane
00:31:18 Dir. Sexton, DNRC
00:31:51 Sen. Hinkle
00:32:05 Mr. Berry, GNP
00:33:12 Sen. Tropila
00:34:30 Mr. Berry
00:37:12 Sen. Hamlett
00:37:59 Mr. Elliot
00:42:01 Sen. Hamlett
00:42:50 Dir. Sexton
00:43:58 Sen. Jackson
00:44:27 Mr. Berry

Closing by Sponsor:

00:45:44 Rep. Berry

HEARING ON SJ 21

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:48:39 Sen. Jim Peterson (R), SD 15, opened the hearing on SJ 21, Study of eminent domain and just compensation for property.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:51:17 Mike Pichette, lobbyist, Northwestern Energy
00:52:08 Carol Lambert, lobbyist, Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE)
00:53:02 Errol Rice, lobbyist, Montana Stockgrowers Association
00:54:00 Tom Lythgoe, Commissioner, Jefferson County
00:54:58 Bob Faw, self
00:56:09 Larry Feight, self
00:58:37 Bill Petrovish, Concerned Citizens Montana (CCM)

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:59:49 Sen. Peterson
01:04:33 Sen. Peterson left the hearing.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 21

01:04:43 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hinkle moved that **SJ 21 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Brenden, Sen. Peterson and Sen. Vincent voted by proxy.

01:06:08 Recess

HEARING ON SJ 22

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:43:11 Sen. Jason Priest (R), SD 30, opened the hearing on SJ 22, Interim study resolution on innovation incentives to encourage renewable energy.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:53:39 Bob Faw, self

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:56:44 Sen. Hamlett

01:56:59 Sen. Priest

Closing by Sponsor:

01:59:18 Sen. Priest

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:

Kevin McCue, Secretary

km

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas70aad.pdf](#))